

In the present claimed invention, in order to avoid this potential degradation of blood proteins, filter 40 is provided between halogen lamp 26 and container 10, and in addition to any UV filtering that might occur if a polycarbonate material is used as the wall of the container. Filter 40 blocks all or substantially all of the radiation in the above mentioned wavelength range which is believed to be responsible for the unwanted protein degradation.

It is acknowledged in the Office Action that WO '304 does not teach or suggest the use of a filter disposed between the heat-emanating device and the container to filter the radiation emitted from the heat emitting device to remove substantially all radiation therefrom having a wavelength in the range of from 190 to 400 nm, as presently claimed.

In this regard, the Examiner relies upon Lynam or Wollowitz. However, Applicants respectfully submit that neither Lynam nor Wollowitz rectify the deficiencies noted above in WO '304, and, more importantly, neither provides motivation to modify the teachings of WO '304 to include a filter as presently claimed.

Lynam is directed to a laminate electro-optic vehicular rearview mirror which is protected against scattering of glass or other mirror element fragments if broken or damaged in the collision while reducing the risk of laceration from contact with the front glass or other element. Lynam simply teaches that commercial polymers absorb ultraviolet radiation because they possess chromophoric groups either as regular constituents or as impurities. Lynam further teaches that, in this regard, chromophores which absorb electromagnetic radiation of a wavelength below about 400 nm are, therefore, effective screens against UV radiation, and polycarbonate, polyester and aromatic polyurethanes contain such chromophores as a major part of their structure.

Wollowitz is directed to inactivating pathogens in blood. Rather than removing substantially all radiation having a wavelength in the range of from 190 to 400 nm, Wollowitz actually teaches a photoactivation device that employs UV radiation. See Wollowitz beginning on col. 8, line 55.

Neither Lynam nor Wollowitz suggests modifying the apparatus taught by WO '304 to include a filter located between the heat-emitting device and the container for filtering the radiation emitted from the heat-emitting device to remove substantially all radiation therefrom having a wavelength in the range from 190 to 400 nm. **Moreover, WO '304 suggests no need for it.** Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection is based upon a hindsight modification of the teachings of the primary reference, WO '304, using applicants' specification because only applicants' specification provides for an apparatus including a separate filter for centrifuging blood or plasma to separate a component therefrom without degradation of protein contained in the blood or plasma, as recited in the present claims.

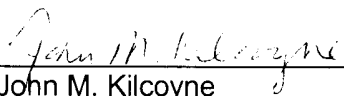
There is still no suggestion other than Applicants' own specification of modifying the apparatus and method of WO '304 to, as presently claimed, include, a separate filter for radiation in the 190 to 400 nm wavelength range. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

Further, the data in the application is simply dismissed in the Office Action. However, applicants respectfully submit that a four fold increase in FPB or fibronopeptide B, as observed in samples of fibrin solutions prepared using the presently claimed apparatus and method, rebuts any possible *prima facie* obviousness rejection.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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